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Secretary for
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California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



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TO: Interested Parties

PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

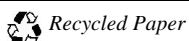
The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley (Regional Board) is soliciting the public on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for data and information regarding water quality conditions in surface waters in this Region. The information gathered will be used in various assessments of the State's waters including the development of a submission to US EPA required by the federal Clean Water Act (Section 303(d)). This submission will be developed by the SWRCB and will provide US EPA with a revised list of waters considered by the State to be impaired (not attaining water quality standards) after certain required technology based water quality controls are in place. It is anticipated that this submission will be provided to US EPA by April 2002, as required by federal regulations. The submission will be based on information and data available to the SWRCB and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The information gathered in this solicitation will also contribute to the preparation of the 2002 federal Clean Water Act Section 305(b) Report on Water Quality. Anyone, including but not limited to, private citizens, public agencies, state and federal governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses, possessing information regarding the quality of the Region's waters may provide information.

We are seeking to obtain all readily available data and assessment information **generated since July 1997. All data and information you wish to provide must be received by the Regional Board by 5:00 pm on May 15, 2001.** For purposes of this solicitation, information is any documentation describing the current or anticipated water quality condition of a surface water body. We consider data to be a subset of information that consists of reports of measurements of specific environmental characteristics. The data and information may pertain to physical, chemical, and/or biological conditions of the regions waters or watersheds.

State Board has requested that information provided conform to the following considerations:

- The name of the entity or person providing the information.
- Mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for a contact person that can answer questions about any of the information provided.
- Two hard copies and an electronic copy of all information provided. For reports Microsoft Word is the preferred software. Please specify the software used to format the information and provide definitions for any codes or abbreviations used.
- Bibliographic citations for all information provided.

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- If computer model outputs are included in the information, please provide bibliographic citations and specify any calibration and quality assurance information available.

State Board has requested that any data provided conform to the following considerations:

- Data in electronic form, in a spreadsheet, database or ASCII format. Please specify the format and define any codes or abbreviations used in your database.
- A description of, and reference for your quality assurance procedures.
- Metadata for the field data, i.e., when measurements were taken, locations, number of samples, detection limits, etc.
- If possible, **two** hard copies of the data.
- In addition, for data from citizen volunteer water quality monitoring efforts:
 - The name of your group;
 - Indication of any training in water quality assessment completed by members of your group;

We would like to receive data and information as soon as possible and no later than **May 15, 2001**. Data or information received after May 15, 2001 will not be considered in developing the April 2002 submission to US EPA required by Clean Water Act Section 303(d).

The Regional Boards have been requested to provide recommendations to the SWRCB in Fall 2001 on the condition of Regional waters. The SWRCB will consider all Regional Boards' recommendations regarding the conditions of the Region's waters when formulating the 303(d) submission. The State's submission revising the list of impaired waters will be considered by the SWRCB in a public process to be conducted next winter. Opportunities for review of the proposed submission and public comment on the submission will be announced at a later date.

Regional Board staff will hold workshops to answer questions regarding the 303(d) listing process. In preparation for those meetings, we are requesting that all questions be sent via e-mail to "303dlist@rb5s.swrcb.ca.gov" by March 12, 2001. If you do not have internet access, you may call Gene Davis at (916) 255- 3387 to record your question. Staff will prepare responses to questions and distribute the responses at the workshops and on our website. Any information and data (including electronic versions on CD or floppy disks) you wish to provide can be sent via ground mail to:

Joe Karkoski
303(d) List Update Coordinator
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
3443 Routier Road, Suite A
Sacramento, CA 95827-3003

Information and data of less than 500kB (0.5 MB) in size can also be sent electronically to 303dlist@rb5s.swrcb.ca.gov .

Central Valley Regional Board Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List Workshops

March 21, 2001

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Fresno Education Department

Auditorium, Second Floor

Tulare and M Streets

Fresno, California

March 28, 2001

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Employment Development Department

722 Capitol Mall

Sacramento, California

The date and location for a workshop in the Redding area will be identified in the next one to two weeks on the Central Valley Regional Board web site: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/TMDL/> .